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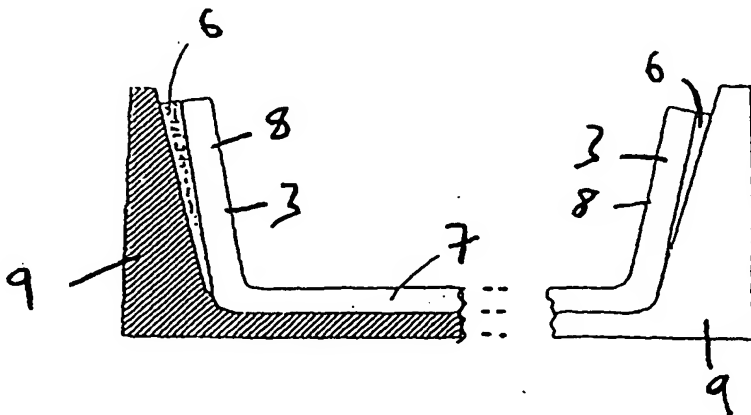
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR JOINING AIRCRAFT COMPONENTS



(57) Abstract: The surface of a moulding tool (9), for receiving a first aircraft component, for example a spar (3), is shaped to correspond to the surface of a second aircraft component, for example a wing skin (5). A gap is defined between the tool (9) and the first component. Resin is drawn into the gap by a suction pump. The resin fills the gap and cures to form a shim (6). The first and second components, which are in the form of composite material structures, are then joined together without any significant voids being formed therebetween.